

THE CLAIMS

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E¹ 7. (Currently amended) A method for treating bradycardia, the method comprising the step of intrapericardial injection of a botulinum toxin to ~~an~~ the SA sinoatrial node or to ~~an~~ the AV atrioventricular node of a heart of a patient with bradycardia, thereby treating bradycardia.

2 15. (Previously amended) The method of claim ¹7, wherein the botulinum toxin is botulinum toxin type A and the amount of botulinum toxin type A locally administered to the heart is between about 0.01 U/kg and about 35 U/kg.

3 16. (Previously amended) The method of claim ¹7 wherein the botulinum toxin is botulinum toxin type A and the amount of botulinum toxin type A locally administered to the heart is between about 0.1 U/kg and about 30 U/kg.

4 17. (Previously amended) The method of claim ¹7, wherein the botulinum toxin is botulinum toxin A and the amount of botulinum toxin A locally administered to the heart is between about 1 U/kg and about 25 U/kg.

5 37. (Previously added) The method of claim ¹7, wherein the botulinum toxin is selected from the group consisting of botulinum toxins types A, B, C, D, E, F and G.

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E² 38. (Currently amended) A method for treating bradycardia, the method comprising the step of intrapericardial injection of a botulinum toxin type A to ~~an~~ the SA sinoatrial node or to ~~an~~ the AV atrioventricular node of a heart of a patient with bradycardia, thereby treating bradycardia.